



**Washington State Department of Health
Certified Counselors and Hypnotherapists
Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes**

January 10, 2019 - 9:30 a.m.

Department of Health
Town Center 2, Room 145 – 111 Israel Road SE
Tumwater, WA 98501

Committee Members Present:

Drue Larson, Certified Counselor, Chair
Ray Zakowski, Hypnotherapist, Vice-Chair
Miriam Dyak, Certified Counselor
Janet Large, Hypnotherapist
Karen Hausrath, Public Member

AAG Present:

Joyce Roper, Assistant Attorney General

Staff Members Present:

James Chaney, Executive Director
Ted Dale, Interim Program Manager
Jennifer Herbrandt, Credentialing
Karen Diehm, Program Representative

Public Present:

Tim Livingston - WPCA

On January 10, 2019, the Certified Counselors and Hypnotherapists Advisory Committee met at the Department of Health, Town Center 2 – Room 145, Tumwater, WA 98501. In accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, the meeting agenda was emailed to members of the certified counselor, certified adviser, and hypnotherapy professions through the department's GovDelivery and posted to the professions' websites.

1. Call to Order – Drue Larson, Certified Counselor, Chair

9:28 a.m.

1.1 Introductions

The committee and agency staff members along with the public attendee introduced themselves and their area of practice.

1.2 Approval of meeting agenda

The agenda was accepted and approved as written.

1.3 Approval of October meeting minutes

The meeting minutes from October 11, 2018, were accepted and approved as written.

1.4 Listen in on Mental Health Panel Discussion – 10 a.m.

The committee listened to the live 2019 Legislative Preview with panel members Rep. Joe Schmick (R), Rep. Frank Chopp (D), Sen Manka Dhingra (D), and Sen. Keith Wagoner (D). Some of the items under discussion included the old age of the physical buildings, out-patient and civil commitment populations, how some patients/clients are in the community while others are in state hospitals, and what population needs to be pinpointed. The panel agreed that it is all about solutions and the solutions are not a simple one size fits all. The public wants to see interest shown in mental illness, homelessness, and the opioid crisis. They also want to see the state working towards long term solutions and putting faith in people so they can in turn help the community. The panel noted they are looking to create more 16-bed facilities throughout the state to keep people closer to their support network and reduce the burden on the two state mental health hospitals. Additional 150-bed facilities may be needed as well. Other potential solutions are to embed Mental Health/Social Workers in law enforcement to quickly determine MH issues for them, lowering barriers to licensure such as reciprocity, and increased outpatient care with telemedicine.

Two questions the panel could not answer were: what is the specific number of people that need help, and what is the number of people that need to be hired. After the presentation, James made a few additional comments: 1) in the work force, many believe that the number of mental health providers is not the issue at this time. There are at least 75,000 people practicing in the mental health field; 2) another problem is that third party insurance only has a short list of providers to refer people to for care. The provider list needs to be expanded; 3) every RN – nationwide – takes the same test. There are no variations. For mental health professionals, school curriculums vary, and states have different requirements/exams. James, colleagues, and credentialing would like to see this remedied with nationwide equivalencies or even regional compacts. The legislature is looking at both reciprocity and compacts.

2. Department Reports

2.1 Credentialing staff presented license statistics.

Jennifer Herbrand reported the following credentialing statistics:

Current Credential Total As of January 3, 2019	
Certified Counselor:	
Number of active applications	472
Number of pending applications	31
Certified Adviser:	
Number of active applications	4
Number of pending applications	1
Hypnotherapist:	
Number of active registrations	731
Number of pending applications	12
Total active credential holders:	1207
Total pending applications:	44

Jennifer noted that new applications could now be done online, resulting in shorter processing time. However, the date received and date issued can still be over 100 days depending on what educational material is being requested and any testing taking place.

2.2 Operating budget report

James noted that the budget report was approximately the same as the previous meeting. He did make note that he would make the Governor's Report and the Budget Report available via email to the committee members. Drue requested that the committee refresh themselves with WAC 246-810, and encouraged members to bring anything that comes to mind or anything they may be curious about to the table. James also reported that the Auditor's Report came out last month and some fees for licensing were going up. The report also included where the funds were going and why. He then addressed the handouts in committee member's packets - DOH Budget Phase 1 and 2, the HELMS project, and the 2019 Budget and Legislation Proposals. It was also suggested that the committee consider coming up with an agenda item to be presented to the DOH Secretary for the 2021 Legislation.

2.2 AAG Update

At this time, there was nothing new to report.

3. Rules Update

3.1 Committee discussed having a special meeting regarding the Certified Counselor rules. Motion was made, seconded, and passed. This will be an in-person meeting in March, either in Tumwater or Kent, and approximately 4 hours in length including a working lunch. Those attending are asked to read up on WAC 246-810 before attending. The AAG and Certification staff will also attend.

3.2 Program discussed status about a recent rule petition regarding WAC 246-810-024 Counseling-related degrees that meet the requirements for certified counselor and certified advisor. The person requesting this previously stated they no longer have interest in amendment. The committee decided that amending the rule was not needed at this time. Motion made, seconded and passed to retract the CR 101.

4. Rule Discussion

Committee discussed retraction of CR 101 regarding WAC 246-810-024 (3 3.2 above). Committee decided to look at the chapter as a whole in the voted upon special meeting to be held in March.

5. Application Outreach

Tim and James agreed to go out to the colleges to talk to students pursuing bachelor's degrees in Psychology to inform them of opportunities related to applying for the Certified Counselor or Advisor credentials. In addition, they will ask about barriers and provide information related to 2019 legislative outcomes.

6. Committee Member Selection Update

At this time there are two public vacancies, with the potential third vacancy at some point in time, and one certified counselor vacancy. James commented that the hope was to have the new program manager on board by March.

7. Public Comment

No comments at this time.

8. Future Business

- Special meeting in March
- Ethics training
- Legislative updates
- MeetMeCall updates

9. Adjournment – Drue Larson, Certified Counselor, Chair

Submitted by:

Approved by:

James Chaney, Executive Director
Certified Counselors and Hypnotherapist
Advisory Committee

Drue Larson, Certified Counselor, Chair
Certified Counselors and Hypnotherapist
Advisory Committee

Next Special Meeting:

Kent
3-20-19

Next Scheduled Meeting:

Tumwater
4-18-19